

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-02 L-03 AGR-05 DHA-02

H-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 DODE-00 /067 W

----- 004685

P 252100Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 303

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FOR HEAVNER, ARA/CAR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, PFR, JM

SUBJECT:P.L. 480 TITLE I

REF: (A) STATE 040857; (B) KINGSTON 398; (C) KINGSTON 0438

1. THIS MESSAGE IF FOLLOW-UP TO DORRANCE/HEAVNER FEB 20
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION.

2. APPRECIATE VIEWS OUTLINED IN REF A. IN OUR VIEW PER
CAPITA CRITERIA SHOULD NOT, IN JAMAICA CONTEXT, BE TAKEN AS
KEY DETERMINANT IN REACHING DECISION ON TITLE I PROGRAM.
AS POINTED OUT IN FY77 ABS AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS, THOUGH
COUNTRY'S PER CAPITA INCOME IS APPROXIMATELY J\$850, INCOME
IS SEVERELY SKEWED IN DISTRIBUTION. SECONDLY AS POINTED
OUT IN REF B, TITLE I FOOD ASSISTANCE IS BEING DIRECTLY
USED AS A DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE IN SUPPORT OF HEALTH/FP/
NUTRITION ACTIVITIES. WHILE SECTION 207, P.L. 94-161,
ELIMINATES JAMAICA FROM THE CORE PROGRAM OF RECIPIENTS,
A STRONG CASE CAN BE MADE TO INCLUDE IT AS A PRIORITY
COUNTRY FOR THE "SECONDARY" PROGRAM, I.E. REMAINING
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25 PER CENT OF FOOD AID.

3. SPECIFICALLY, AS REPORTED REF B, JAMAICA BY THE NATURE OF ITS PROPOSED PROGRAM FULLY MEETS (A) THE INTENT OF SECTION 201 POLICY STATEMENTS RELATING TO SELF-HELP TOWARD INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION; (B) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO THE POTENTIAL FOR EXPANDING EXPORT MARKETS FOR U.S. COMMODITIES (SEE REF C). ADDITIONALLY SECTION 205 DIRECTS THAT EXECUTIVE TO USE THE LOCAL PROCEEDS FOR PURPOSES OF DIRECTLY IMPROVING THE LIVES OF THE POOREST PEOPLE AND THEIR ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRIES. WHILE NO LOCAL CURRENCY IS GENERATED UNDER OUR PROPOSAL, THE BENEFICIARIES ARE ALMOST WHOLLY IN THE POOREST MAJORITY, I.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND POORER MOTHERS UNDER THE MCH PROGRAM.

4. EMBASSY/MISSION VIEW IS THAT SINCE JAMAICAN PROGRAM

USES FOOD AID AS BOTH A DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN RESOURCE, AS CITED REF B, WHICH FULLY MEETS LETTER AND SPIRIT OF VARIOUS SECTIONS OF BOTH FAA AND AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACT, IT SHOULD BE PRIME CANDIDATE COUNTRY FOR TITLE I SUPPORT, THE PRESENT PER CAPITA LEVEL NOTWITHSTANDING. WE ALSO ASSUME CONGRESS DID NOT INTEND TO BE INFLEXIBLE IN DETERMINING FOOD ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION TO EXCLUDE COUNTRIES SUCH AS JAMAICA WHO ARE CONSCIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY USING FOOD AID AS A DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN TOOL. THIS SAME CONCLUSION WAS REACHED BY THE NSC-IG/ARA WHICH RECOMMENDED A TITLE I PROGRAM FOR JAMAICA IN FY76 AND 77.

5. FURTHERMORE, GOJ FACES BUDGETARY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRISES; AND RISING COST OF FOOD IMPORTS, ESTIMATED AT US\$200 MILLION IN 1975, NOW ACCOUNT FOR ESTIMATED 25 PERCENT OF ALL IMPORTS. FINANCE MINISTER COORE EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE A NUMBER OF NEW MEASURES IN NEAR FUTURE TO DEAL WITH DETERIORATING ECONOMIC SITUATION, AMONG WHICH WILL BE ADDITIONAL IMPORT CONTROLS. GIVEN HUMANITARIAN AND INNOVATIVE FEATURES OF P.L. 480 PROGRAM HERE, EMBASSY/MISSION STRONGLY URGES ITS CONTINUANCE, IN THE EVENT THAT REVISIONS ARE MADE TO THE FY76 COUNTRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALLOCATION LIST WE REQUEST THAT JAMAICA'S MODEST TITLE I NEEDS BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION.
DORRANCE

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Message Attributes

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